REMARKS

The indication in the outstanding Office Action that claim 3 is allowable is appreciated.

Accordingly, the features of claim 3 have been incorporated into independent claim 1. As a

result, it is believed that claim 1 and the claims that depend on claim 1 are in condition for

allowance. In addition, claim 19 has been amended to include the features of claim 3. As a

result, it is believed that claim 19 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 5 and 6 were withdrawn as a result of an election of species requirement. Claims

5 and 6 are canceled without prejudice to filing a divisional patent application.

Claims 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In view of the

amendment to claim 14, it is believed that this rejection has been rendered moot, and withdrawal

of this rejection is requested.

The Office Action includes five prior art-based rejections. Claims 1, 2, 7-16 and 19 stand

rejected as anticipated by UK Patent No. GB 130 418 (Caudron et al.). Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 12,

13, 16, and 19 stand rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,788,991 (Neuhauser). Claims

1, 2, 4, 10, 13, 14, and 17-19 stand rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,595,552

(Mortari). Claim 4 stands rejected based on obviousness over Caudron et al. Claims 4, 9, and

11 stand rejected based on obviousness over Neuhauser. In view of the amendment to claims 1

and 19, it is believed that these rejections have been rendered moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of

these rejections is requested.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect

is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Date: June 2/2, 2005

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Thurs M. Maley Dennis R. Daley

Reg. No. 34,994

DRD:jjb

6